

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COLOMB 02834 100740Z

11
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AF-08 EA-07 /103 W
----- 067617

R 100355Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5401
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL BELIZE

C O N F I D E N T I A L COLOMBO 2834

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, GT BH
SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: GUATEMALA AND BELIZE AT NAC

1. WHILE IN PURSUIT OF OTHER RECENTLY ARRIVED DELGATES, EMBOFF STUMBLED ACROSS GUATEMALAN AMBASSADOR TO THE OAS CASTILLO ARRIOLA IN LOCAL HOTEL. CASTILLO SAID THAT HIS PRINCIPAL FUNCTION WOULD BE TO "EDUCATE" NON-ALIGNED ON FACTS OF BELIZE DISPUTE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF ONGOING TRILATERAL TALKS. HE REHEARSED GUATEMALAN INTERPRETATION OF SITUATION FOR EMBOFF AND WAS UNWILLING TO ADMIT THAT HE HAD A UNSYMPATHETIC AUDIENCE.

2. CASTILLO SAID HIS GOVERNMENT HAD RECEIVED INVITATION THROUGH SRI LANKA MISSION IN NEW YORK, BUT THAT NOTIFICATION OF HIS DESIGNATION AS OBSERVER DELEGATION HAD BEEN DELIVERED TO THEM ONLY ON JULY 30. WHEN HE ARRIVED AROUND MIDNIGHT SATURDAY HE WAS DETAINED FOR TWO HOURS AT AIRPORT BECAUSE HIS NAME NOT CLEARED WITH RECEPTION/ SECURITY OFFICIALS. HE WAS ATTEMPTING TO PURSUE MATTER AUGUST 9 BUT WAS FINDING IT DIFFICLUT TO REACH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS. IN THE ABSENCE OF OFFICIAL STANDING, HE WAS
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UNABLE TO ENTER CONFERENCE CENTER OR TWO PRINCIPAL HOTELS.

(COMMENT: GUATEMALA WAS NOT RPT NOT INCLUDED ON LIST IN
RECENT GOVERNMENT PRESS RELEASE OF COUNTRIES TO WHICH
INVITATIONS HAD BEEN ISSUED.)

3. PRESS MEANWHILE REPORTS THE ARRIVAL OF DELEGATION FROM
BELIZE WHICH WAS REPORTEDLY GRANTED "SPECIAL STATUS"
AT ALGIERS NACC MEETING. WE UNDERSTAND DELEGATION IS
HEADED BY PRIME MINISTER.
REED

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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